MINUTES

OF THE

FIFTY-FOURTH SESSION

OF THE

Mississippi Annual Conference,

M. E. CHURCH SOUTH,

HELD AT

JACKSON, MISS., DECEMBER 8—15, 1869.

BISHOP H. N. McTYEIR, PRESIDING.

JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI:
CLARION STEAM PRINTING ESTABLISHMENT.
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PROCEEDINGS OF CONFERENCE

THE Fifty-fourth session of the Mississippi Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, was begun and held in the City of Jackson, December 8–15, 1869. Bishop H. N. McTyeire presiding.

The following clerical members were present during the session, viz: Jno. G. Jones, Wm. H. Watkins, Andrew Day, Erastus R. Strickland, Henry J. Harris, James Maclenan, Joseph Nicholson, James L. Forsyth, Humphrey Williamson, Henderson H. Montgomery, Joseph D. Newsom, James G. Carlisle, John B. Higginbotham, Jno. B. Bowen, Wm. Wadsworth, Burwell B. Whittington, Robt. A. Sibley, Wm. P. Barton, James A. Godfrey, Archibald B. Nicholson, Jno. A. B. Jones, Jas. H. Shelton, Wm. B. Hines, Geo. D. Wade, Ephraim A. Flowers, John J. Clarke, Christopher R. Godfrey, Thomas C. Parish, Whitfield Harrington, David W. Dillehay, Josiah M. Pugh, Elisha F. Mullins, Charles K. Marshall, John D. Willis, William G. Millsaps, Benjamin Jones, Wm. Price, Geo. F. Thompson, John W. Jones, Richard Abbey, Thomas Price, Henry P. Lewis, George Jackson, John A. Vance, Asbury R. Hines, Charles G. Andrews, Wm. B. Lewis, Newton B. Young, Ransom J. Jones, Jr., William Finn, Philip S. Petty, Hiniard Townsend, Louis Kendall, Harvey F. Johnson, Kenneth A. Jones, Edwin H. Mounger, Ira B. Robertson, Joseph Carr, Geo. W. Boyls, Walter W. Hurst, David Merchant, Wm. L. C. Hunnicutt, Patrick Lane, John D. Hays, Pinckney A. Johnson, Corydon Chamberlin, Wm. T. J. Sullivan, Robt. D. Norsworthy, Thos. W. Flowers, William W. Drake, William E. Ballard, James K. Hamblen, Robt. B. Downer, Thomas Nixon, James S. Harris, Francis M. Williams, Jno. A. Ellis, Leonidas R. Redding, Wm. E. M. Linfield, Robt. A. New, Francis M. Featherston, Parmenas Howard, Ransom J. Jones, Sr., Hardie Brown, Perry G. Reynolds, Andrew B. Stewart, Wm. F. Glenn John V. Pointer, John W. Harmon, Robert A. Davis, Julius T. Curtis, Levi P. Meador, Epaphroditus W. Simmons, Alexander M. Campbell, George M. Liverman, Richard H. Herbert.

Lay Delegates from the various Districts were present and participated in the proceedings as follows, viz: L. K. Barber, J. E. Jagers, Thomas Reed, Robert D. Howe, John Lusk, Stephen Johnson, M. L. McGuire, R. A. Anderson, W. R. Trigg, W. L. Nugent, Wm. T. Ashford, O. J. Moore, James Bryan, Joseph T. McGee, J. E. Watts, Joel Hughes, J. E. Holloway, T. McLaurin, Ira Higginbotham, W. K. Simmons.

C. G. Andrews, J. A. B. Jones, and H. J. Harris, were elected Secretaries.

The hours of 9½ A. M., and 1½ P. M., were fixed as the time of meeting and adjournment.

Committees were appointed on the various interests of the Church as follows, viz:

On Public Worship—R. Abbey, W. B. Lewis, W. B. Hines.

On Religious Literature—W. H. Watkins, W. F. Glenn, E. H. Mounger, O. R. Singleton, G. W. Harper.

On the Bible Cause—J. L. Forsyth, W. W. Drake, A. R. Hines, J E. Jagers, W. R. Trigg.

On Sunday Schools—W. L. C. Hunnicutt, C. Chamberlin, R. J. Jones, Jr., James Bryant, R. D. Howe.

On Education—B. Jones, W. T. J. Sullivan, H. F. Johnson, Thomas Reed, O. J. Moore.

On Missions—W. P. Barton, H. H. Montgomery, Wm. Wadsworth, S. Johnson, M. L. McGuire.

On Memoirs—John G. Jones, Thomas Nixon, J. L. Forsyth.

On Temperance—L. R. Redding, H. H. Montgomery, W. B. Hines, Geo. C. Armstrong, M. L. McGuire.

Rev. Dr. Keener, Editor of the N. O. Christian Advocate, was present in the interest of his paper; also Rev. R. J. Harp, Agent of the New Orleans Book Depository.

The Clergymen of the City, as also the Reporters of the Press, were invited to seats within the bar of the Conference.

Communications from the Publishing House at Nashville, from the Secretaries of Home and Foreign Missions, and from the Trustees and visitors of the various Conference Schools, were received and referred to appropriate committees.

Conference resolved to sit with open doors during the examination of character.

First Question—Who are admitted on trial?

Answer—David A. Givens, from Amite Circuit. James M. Weems, from Mt. Carmel circuit; Simon Carley, from Columbia circuit; Jacob H. Holland, from Rankin circuit; Wm. K. Simmons, from Clinton, La., circuit; and George W. Chatfield, from Garlandsville circuit.

Second Question—Who remain on trial?

Answer—Jacob D. Murff, Robert B. Seeders ; Charles B. Galloway elected and ordained Deacon; Henry P. Bowen, John C. Carlyle, in Elder's orders ; Thomas J. Hutson, transferred to North-West Texas Conference.

Question Third—Who are admitted into full connection?

Answer—Levi P. Meador, Epaphroditus W. Simmons, Alexander M. Campbell,.

Question Fourth—Who are re-admitted?

Answer—Richard H. Herbert, in Elder's orders.

Question Fifth—Who are received by transfer from other Conferences?

Answer—John W. Harmon, from the Mobile; Robert A. Davis, in Deacon's orders, from the Louisiana ; Julius T. Curtis from the North Georgia Conference. George M. Liverman, in Elder's orders, was received from the Congregational Methodist Church.

Question Sixth—Who are the Deacons of one year?

Answer—Robert A. Davis, Pinckney A. Johnson, Parmenas Howard.

Question Seventh—What traveling Preachers are elected and ordained Deacons?

Answer—Charles B. Galloway, Epaphroditus W. Simmons.

Question Eighth—What local Preachers are elected and ordained Deacons?

Answer—Irvin Miller, Joseph E. Lewis, Harrison Hays, each from Walnut Grove Circuit; Joseph Graves, from Ocoha circuit; Thomas King,* from Bogue Chitto circuit, and Benjamin D. Sellers,* from Burtonton circuit. John J. Lazenby, Joseph Hardgroves elected previously, were ordained.

Question Nine—What traveling Preachers are elected and ordained Elders?

Answer—Andrew B. Stewart, James K. Hamblen (elected last year.)

Question Ten—What local Preachers are elected and ordained Elders?

Answer—Wm. Thomas Ashford, from Greenville circuit, Jacob H. Holland, from Rankin circuit, Auguste Gottschall,* from Jackson, Louisiana, circuit, Alfred P. Leach,* from Starkville circuit, William H. Mullins elected previously.

Question Eleven—Who have located this year?

Answer—Richard T. Hennington, Robert D. Norsworthy, John W. Jones, Robert A. New.

Question Twelve—Who are supernumerary?

Answer—James Maclennan, Wm. G. Millsaps, Jarrott W. McNeil.

Question Thirteen—Who are superannuated?

Answer—J. Ira E. Byrd, Thos. Clinton, George T. Vickers, John G. Deskin, Jno. B. Higginbotham, Burwell B. Whittington, Levi Pearce, Hervey Copeland.

Question Fourteen—Who have died during the year?

Answer—Peter James, Samuel T. Swiney.

——* Elected but not ordained.

OBITUARIES.

Rev. Peter James, was born in Pennsylvania, in the year 1789. When he was in his tenth year, his father moved to Virginia near Wheeling, and in 1800 they got aboard a flat-boat and floated down to Natchez, where they landed the first day of June. After remaining near that place a few years, they moved and settled on Bogue Chitto, in what was afterwards Pike county, Mississippi. Here Peter remained with his father, aiding him in cultivating his farm, until the Lord brought him from "darkness to light," and gave him a clear evidence of the forgiveness of his sins. Not long after he had received this great blessing, he felt that God had called him to preach the Gospel. He was determined to do what he believed to be his duty, but trembled and hesitated under a sense of his unfitness for so important a work. He was licensed to exhort in May, 1812, and employed by the Presiding Elder to travel until Conference. He was licensed to preach and received on trial in the fall of the same year. In 1814, he traveled the Tombigbee Circuit, with J. I. E. Byrd, where they were in much peril from hostile Indians, just after the fall of Fort Mims. In 1815 he traveled with Wm. Winans, on the Wilkinson Circuit; in 1816, he traveled the Attakapas Circuit. Peter James and Thomas Owens were the only traveling Preachers west of the Mississippi that year. They came across the river together to attend the first Mississippi Conference, which was held six miles from Natchez, in the house of Bro. William Foster, on Pine Ridge. At this Conference, both these brethren were ordained to the office of a Deacon, by Bishop Roberts. After Conference, Bro. James was married to Miss Charlotte Siddon, near Opelousas, La. He traveled Pearl River Circuit, in 1817, and located at the close of that year. After remaing local for several years, he was re-admitted and traveled about 10 years, when circumstances influenced him to again locate. He was not content to remain longer than was necessary in this relation, was re-admitted a second time, and appointed Presiding Elder of a District in the Northern part of the Conference. While he was traveling this District, the Memphis Conference was formed, and made to include part of his charge. Bro. James was elected to come to the Mississippi Conference. His health had failed and he was granted a superanuated relation, in which relation, he was continued until his death, which occurred at the residence of his son in Holmes county, Mississippi, March 18th, 1869. Just before he died, he was asked if he was prepared to die? He replied with emphasis, "Yes, yes, long ago. If I had let that matter alone until now, it would have been too late."

Peter James possessed but little literary attainments. His early education was imperfect, but by dint of application, he became an able minister of the Gospel. In all the relations of life, he maintained his integrity as a christian, and exemplified the virtues and graces of our holy religion. His wife had preceded him, we trust to Heaven, whither we hope their children that survive them will come at last, and make an unbroken family in the kingdom of God.

Rev. Samuel T. Swiney, a superanuated member of the Mississippi Conference, departed this life on the 14th of August, 1869. Our

deceased brother was a native of West Feliciana Parish, Louisiana. The circumstances of his childhood were not favorable to the developement either of his mental or moral faculties; yet through the mercy of God, at an early day in his history, he was awakened to a consciousness of his guilt and danger, and induced to flee from the wrath to come, to the hope set before him in the Gospel. When but a boy, he was happily converted to God; soon after his conversion, he began to feel the strivings of the Holy Spirit within him, wooing him to call sinners to repentance. This work he began immediately among his associates at school, and elsewhere, calling them frequently to prayer, and admonishing them of the consequences of sin. By these exercises, young hearts were drawn to Christ, and the thought sprang up that he was destined to be a preacher. This thought fastened itself so powerfully upon his own mind that he began to direct his studies to that point, but it was not for several years after that he felt assured that God had called him to the work of the ministry. When he did, he conferred not with flesh and blood, but gave himself to God for his glory, and to the church for the promotion of its glorious interests. For a series of years, beginning in 1856, he occupied those fields of labor assigned him by the authorities of the church of his choice. He appears to have been always ready to go to his work promptly and cheerfully, and continue at it in the spirit of his Divine Master, until it was accomplished.

By earnest application to study, and diligent use of his knowledge as gained, he acquired in the ministry a wealth of wisdom that many a regularly trained divinity student might well have envied. In eloquence and power in the pulpit, he had but few equals among those of his age in the ministry, yet he was unpretending, modest and retiring. When forced by the effect of incessant labor on a naturally feeble constitution, to ask a superanuated relation to his Conference, he used what vigor was left in assisting in their work the ministers who were sent from time to time, to the circuit in which he lived. During the last two or three years of his life, he was an almost constant sufferer. He bore his afflictions with christian fortitude, and calm resignation to the will of God. He was a good man, full of faith and the Holy Ghost. He died as all such christian men die, full of a living hope of Eternal Glory.

Question Fifteen—Are all the Preachers blameless in their life and official administration?

Answer—Their names were called over one by one, and their characters examined and passed, except John W. Adams, who was left without an appointment, and his case was referred to the Presiding Elder of the Jackson District.

Question Sixteen—what is the number of Preachers and members in the several Circuits, Stations and Missions of the Conference?

[See page 8.]

LIST OF APPOINTMENTS.

	White Members,	Colored Members,	Local Preachers,	Local Deacons,	Local Elders,	Adults Baptized,	Infants Baptized,	Miss'ry & Tr'ct Money	Sunday Schools,	Officers and Teachers,	Scholars,	Volumes in Library,	Preacher's Allowance,	Preacher's Receipts,	Conference Collection,	Bishop's Fund,
WOODVILLE DISTRICT,													$700	$568 50	$	$37 00
Woodville Station,	60		1					15 00	1	10	70	350	1000	1000 00	30 00	22 00
Percy Creek,	30								1	4	25	100				
Jackson, Louisiana,	200		2			15	12		3	17	150	200	800	800 00	40 00	25 00
Tunica,	187							20 00	2	15	35					9 20
Wilkinson,	250		1			5	4	20 00	2	12	45	625	500	500 00	50 00	23 85
Midway Colored Mission,		229			1	26										
Buffalo,	150		1			31	27		2	8	47	150	400	300 00		19 20
Liberty,	110			1	1			99 00	2	18	165	400	500	500 00	5 00	23 85
Meadville,	96								2	6	40	200				21 50
Amite,	103		1	2											12 00	14 50
St. Helena,	211		1	1			1	40 00	3	9	59	225	275	227 20	6 85	28 20
Total	1352	229	7	4	2	77	44	194 00	18	99	636	2250	41 75	3895 70	143 85	222 30
													116 50	$888 90		
VICKSBURG DISTRICT,													200 00	1800 00	69 05	50 00
Vicksburg Station,	167			2			7	300 00	1	25	150	650	800 00	800 00	21 50	26 50
North Warren,	264			5		18	13	60 00	4	15	80					
South Warren,	67	6	1						1	6	30					
Cayuga,	167			2			7		1	7	20		600 00	460 65	35 75	
Rocky Springs,	86							37 65							43 80	
Port Gibson,	101				1		5	444 35	1	8	40	300	120 00	543 65	23 25	
Grand Gulf,																
Fayette,	315		1		4	2	19		3	14	115	450	1000	1000 00	55 00	17 00
Rodney,	5	40							1	6	40	100				

Fayette Colored Mission																		
Natchez Station,	155							98 00	1	17	73	375	1400	605 00	31 50			
Kingston,	17																	
Total	1344	46	2	9	5	20	51	540 00	13	98	548	1875	8165	6098 20	279 85	93 50		
JACKSON, DISTRICT,																		
Jackson Station,	105					5	5	62 95	1	13	90	400	1200	967 85				
Raymond and Spring Ridge,	172		1		1	16	15	101 25	2	23	140	175	1000	1000 00	28 35	15 65		
Terry,	21						4		1				1000	570 00		13 75		
Clinton,	302					2	37	24	47 90	6	40	224	350	50				
Brownsville Colored Charge,		5											1000	1096 65	123 50	41 65		
Vernon and Livingston,	58	6				2	4	30 00	1	3	20	60	835	635 00	35 00	23 10		
Canton,	137	1			1		12	155 00	1	17	76	150	1000	1000 00	85 00	45 35		
Sharon and Colored Charge,	138	45	1			20	6	24 75	1	14	107	450	434	338 00	41 85	17 75		
Madisonville,	215		3			25	1	21 55	6	35	125	200	450	350 00		15 10		
Camden and Colored Charge,	200	230	3			30	2	46 85					900	270 00		21 60		
Carthage,	190		1				1		2	8	50	60				10 50		
Toledo, Honduras,																		
Total,	1538	287	9		4	135	74	490 25	21	153	832	1845	7819	1277 50	313 70	204 45		
YAZOO DISTRICT,																		
Yazoo City,	85	12	2		1	26	10	16 00					1500	946 50				
Yazoo Circuit,	298		2		1	26	10	30 00	1	10	50	300	800	650 00	40 25	10 00		
Mt. Olivet,	272					23	3	36 00	2	17	61	311	600	529 40	55 50	42 45		
Richland,	150				1			7 00	2	2	46	110	500	500 00				
Lexington,	140				2	13	12	50 00	1	6	40	150	600	600 00	41 00	46 55		
Durant,	319				1	26	15	30 00	1	6	25	150	1000	450 00		25 45		
Black Hawk,	334							23 58					500	400 00				
Carrollton,	200			1	2		3	10 00	1		40	200			26 70	69 60		
Mt. Zion and Eden,									2	10	50	100	825	325 00	20 00	9 50		
Sunflower,	78					12	9	60 00	2	14	100	275	500		12 00	32 85		
Total,	1876	12	4	1	8	126	64	262 90	12	65	412	1596	7425	4705 15	205 45	288 05		
GREENVILLE DISTRICT,																		
Greenville,	51						5	75 50	1	8	28	230	330	280 00		12 00		
													800	800 00	80 00	30 00		

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LIST OF APPOINTMENTS.

	White Members,	Colored Members,	Local Preachers,	Local Deacons,	Local Elders,	Adults Baptized,	Infants Baptized,	Miss'nry & Tr'ct Money	Sunday Schools,	Officers and Teachers,	Scholars,	Volumes in Library,	Preacher's Allowance,	Preacher's Receipts,	Conference Collection,	Bishop's Fund,
Deer Creek,	56				1		9	7 50	3	10	27	24	400	300 00	45 00	15 00
Bolivar,	14							11 00	1	2	6	106	300	25 00	21 50	
Clover Hill,	30						2	20 00	1	4	20	50	300	335 00	60 00	25 00
Indian Bayou,																
Total,	151				1		16	114 00	6	24	111	410	2130	1940 00	206 50	82 00
STARKVILLE DISTRICT,													825	334 92		
Starkville,	192		2	1		22	5	64 00	2	12	100	200	1000	574 88	46 48	15 50
Louisville,	335	110	9			30	20	8 10					495	235 75	7 00	2 50
Plattsburg,	140	9	1													
Bankston,	422	20	1			50	10						500	322 00		
Line Creek,	400					30	20						550	150 00		
Winona,	388	50	1	1	4	20	12	70 00	2	18	60	185	800	673 00	96 00	24 00
Vaiden,	336		1			57	31	34 30	3	12	85	500	700	604 00	7 00	5 00
Kosciusko,	479		1		2	31	13	20 00	1	6	50	100	850	772 95		
Greensboro',	300	50	2	1												
Total,	2992	239	18	3	6	240	111	196 40	8	48	295	985	5720	3667 50	156 48	47 00
BRANDON DISTRICT,									2	10	63	280			32 25	15 00
Brandon Station,	81												800	408 10	10 00	
Brandon Circuit,	270		2			19	10	5 25					700	440 10		10 00
Hillsboro',	240		1	2	1	13	23	15 00								
Forest,	190	1														

Trenton,	300			1	1	13	32		3	34	113	200	600	419 00	10 00			
Walnut Grove,	425	26	4	1	2	47	18	25 00	2	8	70	50	325	325 00				
Hickory Mission,	250		2			13	6											
Philadelphia,	220	40			1	62	60		2	8	75	150	435	380 00				
Garlandsville,	157	2				16	1		3	28	87	163	600	461 95	10 00	10 00		
Total,	2133	69	9	4	5	183	150	45 25	12	88	408	843	3460	2434 05	62 25	41 00		
PAULDING DISTRICT,																		
Paulding Circuit,	314		1			10	15	35 00	1	10	80	100	700	604 00	5 00	3 00		
Sylvarena,	278	5				11	8						750	418 40	27 00			
Trinity,																		
Rankin,	463		3	2		40	35	25 00	8	40	280	300	600	500 00	20 00	10 00		
Mt. Carmel,	303	115	1			100	1		1	5	25	50	575	575 00	17 00	8 00		
Columbia,	162		8				46	54 00	4	20	152	300	350	276 50	30 00	10 00		
China Grove,																		
Handsboro' Mission,	100		2	2	1				2	5	50							
Ocoha,	120								2	1	1							
Black Creek,																		
Total,	1743	120	15	4	1	161	105	114 00	18	81	588	750	2975	2373 90	99 00	31 00		
BROOKHAVEN DISTRICT,																		
Brookhaven Station,	76				1			10 65	1	16	145	300	800	582 75	33 05	15 00		
Bogue Chitto,	157		2	1	1	15	10								4 30	4 00		
Wesson and Beauregard,	110						5						900	700 00	21 10	15 00		
Crystal Springs and Hazlehurst,	287				4			100 00	2	20	150	800	800	800 00	30 00	14 00		
Bahalia,	204		6			15	15	15 00	2	8	45	100	400	400 00	10 00	10 00		
Georgetown,	117			2														
Brandywine,	282				1			26 50	2	8	20	250	360	275 00	2 50	2 50		
Scotland,	460																	
Burtonton,	45		1			1	1	12 00					415	387 00	7 00	15 00		
Pleasant Valley,	169		1		2	10	2	33 50	2	14	75	300	800	600 00	10 00	20 00		
Summit,	68				3	3	10		1	5	37	245	300	249 00	4 00			
Holmesville,	133		1			10	2	10 00	2	6	30	50	400	350 00	26 00			
Total,	2108		11	3	12	54	46	207 65	12	77	502	2045	5975	5085 45	147 95	95 50		

LIST OF APPOINTMENTS.

	White members,	Colored Members,	Local Preachers,	Local Deacons,	Local Elders,	Adults Baptized,	Infants Baptized,	Miss'nry & Tr'ct Money.	Sunday Schools,	Officers and Teachers,	Schools,	Volumes in Library,	Preacher's Allowance,	Preacher's Receipts,	Conference Collection,	Bishop's Fund,
CLINTON DISTRICT,														10 00		
Clinton Circuit,	77			1	1	3	5						700	550 00	5 00	16 20
East Baton Rouge,	161							14 00	2	8	35	200	600	600 00	20 00	7 50
Arcola,	66				1											
Greensburg,	151			1	1		2	14 00	1	7	40					
Pontchatoula,	96	2	1													
Covington,	59															
Hammond,																
Livingston,																
East Felicianna,	75					5	5	12 05								16 20
Total,	685	2	1	2	3	8	12	40 05	3	15	75	200	1300	1160 00	25 00	39 90

RECAPITULATION.

LIST OF APPOINTMENTS.	White Members,	Colored Members,	Local Preachers,	Local Deacons,	Local Elders,	Adults Baptized,	Infants Baptized,	Missi'nry & Tr'et Money	Sunday Schools,	Officers and Teachers,	Scholars,	Volumes in Library,	Preacher's Allowance,	Preacher's Receipts,	Conference Collection,	Bishop's Fund,
Woodville District,	1352	229	7	4	2	77	44	149 00	18	99	636	2250	4175	3895 70	143 85	222 30
Vicksburg District,	1344	46	2	9	5	20	51	540 00	13	98	548	1875	8165	6098 20	279 85	93 50
Jackson District,	1538	287	9		4	135	74	490 25	21	153	832	1845	7819	6277 50	313 70	204 45
Yazoo District,	1876	12	4	1	8	126	64	262 90	12	65	412	1596	7425	4705 15	205 45	288 05
Greenville District,	151				1		16	114 00	6	24	111	410	2130	1940 00	206 50	82 00
Starkville District,	2992	239	18	3	6	240	111	196 40	8	48	295	985	5720	3667 50	156 48	47 00
Brandon District,	2133	69	9	4	5	133	150	45 25	12	88	408	843	3460	2434 05	62 25	41 00
Paulding District,	1743	120	15	4	1	161	105	114 00	18	81	588	750	2975	2373 90	99 00	31 00
Brookhaven District,	2108		11	3	12	54	46	207 65	12	77	502	2045	5975	5085 45	147 95	95 50
Clinton District,	685	2	1	2	3	8	12	40 05	3	15	75	200	1300	1160 00	25 00	39 90
Grand Total,	15922	1004	76	30	47	1004	673	2204 50	123	748	4407	11769	49144	37637 45	1640 03	1145 70
Total last year,	14448	2112	82	26	36	558	521	1529 48	128	842	4313	13656	43891	26345 00	935 50	792 40
Increase,	1484		6	4	11	446	152	675 02			294		5253	11292 45	704 53	353 30
Decrease,		1108							5	94		1887				

Question Seventeen—How many adults and infants have been baptized during the year?

Answer—Audults.....1004
Infants..... 673

Question Eighteen—What is the number of Sunday Schools, Teachers and Scholars?

Answer—Schools,..... 123
Officers and Teachers,..... 748
Scholars,.....4407

Question Nineteen—What amounts are necessary for the Superanuated Preachers, and the Widows and Orphans of Preachers, and to make up the deficiencies of those who have not obtained their regular allowance in their respective districts, circuits and stations?

Answer—For Bishops,.....$1430 00
For Conference Claimants,..... 3610 00

Question Twenty—What has been collected on the foregoing accounts and how has it been applied?

Answer—Appropriated to Bishops,.....$1208 70
To Conference Claimants,..... 1752 90

Question Twenty-one—What has been contributed for the Missionary, Sunday School and Tract Societies?

Answer—For both purposes,.....$2204 50

[See page 8.]

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

THE Committee to whom the subject of Sunday Schools was referred, feel constrained to congratulate themselves and the Conference on the exalted position and widening influence which the Sunday School has attained, not only in our own church, but among all the churches of God throughout the world. At different periods of the past, Providence has seemed to introduce and designate some single agency as then best adapted to the necessities of the church as an auxiliary to the great work of the pulpit in the evangelization of man. Such an instrumentality were class metings in the days of the Wesleys, and camp meetings during the earlier history of American Methodism, and such now is the Sunday School, the very idea of which seems to be a divine inspiration which is constantly deepening and widening, and is destined to pervade all Christendom. It is unquestionably the field which invites the most active labors of the church, and promises the most abundant harvest. Never did the church so much need the aid of such a helper as now; not because the Gospel has in any degree lost its sufficiency, or the ministry its efficiency, but chiefly, we think, because of the peculiar educational and social surroundings of the young. This is not only an age of great intellectual activity, in which "many run to and fro and knowledge is increased," but an age in which Satan seems to use unprecedented arts and efforts to ruin our race through the instrumentality of education itself. The Bible, always too much neglected in our common schools, has been deliberately expelled from the public schools of some of the principal cities of this country, and the same step is being gravely discussed in others, and that, too, when the experience of multiplied years has furnished perpetually accumulating evidence of the fact that simple education has no sanctifying

power; that mere intellectual development, without the implantation of divine grace in the heart, makes men only accomplished sinners or polished fiends. At such a juncture in our educational history the work of the Sunday School, which is specfically to teach the Bible to the young, is most imperatively demanded, not only as an antidote to natural corruption, pre-occupying the ground where weeds of wickedness would grow and forestalling Satan's earliest plans, but as a needed guide and regulator to that increased power which intellectual culture always imparts. It is Sunday School instruction alone that can and must leaven the whole lump of education. The Sunday School is the school of the present age. The past had nothing equal to it, and the present has nothing superior to it as an agency for good. Better would it be that all the Colleges in the land should cease to exist than that biblical instruction should be withheld from childhood and infancy. If these views are correct the question arises: How shall we best secure to the church the abundant results for good which this institution is calculated to accomplish? We answer: Let all the officers and teachers of our Sunday Schools cultivate such personal piety as duty and consistency require of those who would teach others the doctrines of godliness. The responsibility of those who would teach in Sunday Schools is greater than that of other teachers, by as much as the issues of eternity transcend the interests of time. While we earestly commend fervent piety in all who have supervision in our Sunday Schools, we would not fail to recommend a proper regard for the peculiar mental characteristics and tastes of childhood, by a judicious use of tickets, prizes, premiums, celebrations and other suitable means of exciting in the young a greater interest in the Sunday School, and of promoting a cheerful piety, a happy Christianity among the children of the church.

Your committee, believing that the highest efficiency of the Sunday School can only be secured by maintaining the most intimate and harmonious relations between it and the church, by making it an antechamber or a primary department of the church, recommend that a larger number of hymns suitable for Sunday Schools, be incorporated into the next edition of our church hymn book.

There are reported to be within the bounds of the Mississippi Conference one hundred aud twenty-three Sunday Schools, having seven hundred and forty-eight officers and teachers, four thousand four hundred and eleven scholars, eleven thousand seven hundred and sixty-nine volumes in libraries, and taking nine hundred and eighty-one copies of the *Sunday School Visitor*, and having expended $1,632 30 for Sunday School purposes. There are also reported to us two hundred and seventy-three pupils of Sunday Schools who have been received into the church during the year. As supplementary to the strictly proper matter of this report, allow us to say: We rejoice to see that the church is awaking to a proper sense of the importance of retaining baptized children in the church, and hope that the ministry will bestir themselves to a more faithful discharge of their duties to baptized children, as prescribed on page one hundred and two of the Discipline. The neglect of these duties has cost us the loss of thousands of members. We wish that the relation of baptized children to the church was more clearly defined in the minds of both our membership and ministry. We believe that the Discipline recognizes children baptized by Methodist ministers as members of our church, and solemnly disapprove the suicidal practice, too much in vogue, of ignoring, neglecting and virtually expelling them.

Your committee are of the opinion, from their observation and experience, that our people, particularly the youth of our families, are not sufficiently impressed and taught the high and noble position we as a church hold, not only in these United States, but almost in every quarter, every section of the earth. That Methodism is less than one hundred and fifty years old, and yet in that short time it is extended and honored the world over, and has increased from a small handful until now it numbers its membership by the million—that it is a power on the earth, and yet a power, we trust, for good everywhere—and whilst contemplating this wonderful and unexampled growth, not excelled by the rapid growth of Mohammedism, aided by the sword though it was, in humble thankfulness we can but reiterate the words of Wesley: "What has God wrought for us." We would

ask: Are these thoughts, are the labors of our fathers, is their godly life and extraordinary success taught and exhibited to our youth in a way to make them appreciate the privilege? Yes, the honor of being numbered in such a church, so blessed by almighty goodness. We should talk of these things to our children when we rise up and when we sit down, at home and abroad; but especially would we recommend the assembling of our membership once a year with all their children sitting together as families, presenting themselves and "the children God has graciously given them before the Lord." Your committee think they have Scripture example for such an assembly. Let these addresses be made by personsselected beforehand, whether clerical or lay, upon the origin, progress and present condition of Methodism, together with local history of Methodism in each particular place. Let this be called the Annual Social Festival of Methodism. Your committee beg leave to offer the following resolution:

Resolved, That we will hold, on the first Sunday in June of each year, "The Social Festival of Methodism," inviting thereto all the families, as families, appertaining to the station, and, as far as practicable, on the circuit belonging to our church, for the purpose of rehearsing the wonderful history of Methodism, and to stimulate thereby one another to renewed exertion, and our children to reverence, love and cherish the church of our fathers.

W. L. C. HUNNICUTT,
C. CHAMBERLIN,
R. J. JONES, JR.,
R. D. HOWE,
JAMES BRYAN, Committee.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE BIBLE CAUSE,

A great blessing was conferred on the church and on the world, when a British Sovereign resolved to have the Holy Bible translated correctly, by competent men, into the English language, so that every man, might read or hear read in his own language, the wonderful works of God. A still greater boon was conferred upon the nations, when Associated British, and afterwards Associated American Christians, determined to send, if possible, to every land, the sacred volume without note or comment. By this means multiplied thousands have been furnished with the great charter of their liberties, and food for their souls, who otherwise would have remained in bondage, and perished for lack of knowledge. Although much has been done by Bible Societies, and individual enterprise to circulate the blessed Book, much remains to be done, before the people generaly are provided with the bread of life. It is a lamentable fact, that there are christian families within our bounds, who do not own a copy of the Holy Scriptures; and families not a few, who have but fragments of the word of life, now if such be the destitution among christian people, what must be the condition of those, who do not desire a knowledge of God. To remedy this manifest and great evil, we suggest, that every member of this body, constitute himself a gratuitous agent of the South Western Bible Society, to search out the destitute and supply them. Bibles in abundance can be had at the Society's Depository in the City of New Orleans, for gratuitous distribution among the poor, and at a small cost for those who are able to buy. This we deem necessary because we believe that no one can be intelligently and steadfastly pious without a knowledge of revealed truth. We think it particularly important that special efforts should be made at this time.

The infernal hosts and the hosts of Romish darkness, are spreading over the land, laboring to banish from public schools, and other seats of learning the word of God, and substitute the dogmas of councils and their corrupt creed. Your committee recognize with plearsure, the labours of Dr. J. W. Harmon, a member of your body, as Agent of the South Western Bible Society. We are gratified to learn from him, that he has organized in the Southern portion of our Conference, thirty Auxiliary Societies, and distributed upwards of four thousand dollars worth of Bibles and Testaments.

We learn that the Board of Directors of the South Western Bible Society, urgently desire that Dr. Harmon continue in the Agency. We therefore respectfully recommend to the Bishop of our Conference to appoint him to said Agency.

Resolved, That we cordially approve of the aim and efforts of the South Western Bible Society to dissemminate the Word of God.

Resolved, That we hold ourselves in readiness to co-operate with its Agents in their good work.

J. L. FORSYTH, Chairman.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

The Committee on Education respectfully submit to the Conference:

That this subject appears to us as a church with an interest scarcely ever before attending it. We are called upon, not so much to urge that the masses shall be educated, as to exert ourselves in controlling and directing the character of that education. We are bold to say that all education must be made christian; not in the sense of teaching a creed, but in the sense of fixing in the heart, that complement of principles which make a christian character and develope into a full and holy life. This is a work that begins in the nursery, for it is there that the foundation of character is laid. It is a matter of the first moment, that the home part of education shall not be divorced from that of the school-room. And this is a part in which not only the parent, but also the pastor enters as a teacher. It is in the tender years of childhood, that the style and tendency of the thought and affection are to be formed and directed; it is then that the mind is to be fortified against the subtleties of false philosophy, by having it carefully grounded in the principles of the truth, as it is in Jesus, and trained to habits of practical piety. It is not enough that the young shall be taught the historic truths of christianity, and the philosophy of morals; they must be taught also, that al this is a sounding brass and a tinkling cymbal, unless there is the life of God in the soul—a life which is to show itself in every circle in which the person moves, and in every business in which he engages. We must scout the notion that there is a religious and a secular life; the whole life, total and particular, is to be held as a living sacrifice to God, holy and acceptable, a reasonable service. And inasmuch as the home school and the literary school are complementary of each other in the work of education, the latter as well as the former, must be regulated by the laws of christian duty, and have for its object the achievement of the fullest christian growth and usefulness. It is time for us as a church, to insist that the intellectual, artistic and technical training of our children shall be pregnant with the spirit of Christ; that no object on earth is to be pursued as an end in itself, but only in its relations to duty. And our schools ought to be organized and conducted on this basis. We cannot shut our eyes to the danger that besets the work of true education in our own country. The increasing demands for skill in the mechanic arts, are urging the establishment of polytechnic schools everywhere, and are inducing an attention to the study of the physical sciences which put in peril the paramount business of developing and directing the activities of the soul with reference to the high and essential functions of duty. We must put a check on this tendency by endeavoring to bring into every kind of school, the principle, of personal piety, and constraining the mind to see the wonderful wisdom and the direct handiwork of God in all the laws and forms of material nature. There are in our day many wise men, according to this world's wisdom, who seek to deify Nature and to reduce the sublime and blessed system of christian morals and hopes under the dominion of the cold, harsh, horrid philosophy of blind materialism. To such fearful extent has this school pushed its assertion that it dastardly proclaims mind to be only a phenomenon of matter. Scarcely less menacing to the interests of practical godliness is another school, which teaches that the problems of human duty can all be solved by the dicta of the natural conscience without the aid or need of the word of God. These and other forms of error the church is

called upon to meet and overthrow by blending in her schools the highest intellectual culture with the purest spiritual life. To do this effectually, we should seek also to elevate the standard of literary education among our ministry. This is a subject towards which we are exceedingly glad to see our own church turning its attention with specific reference to the exalted claims that God has upon us to vindicate his truth against all forms of error. We must be prepared to feed the flock of God over which Christ has made us overseers, and also to defend them against the the attacks made by false teachers upon the necessity and reality of spiritual holiness and practical Godliness in the daily walks of human life. We are to be able to meet the subtleties of those who try to shake the faith, destroy the hope and blast the life of our people.

We are glad to see that there is an increasing disposition in the Conference to be more exacting upon its undergraduates. Our young preachers ought to be required not simply to read, but to study thoroughly the subjects prescribed by the Bishops, and the examinations should be full and critical. No young man should allow himself to pursue these studies with less interest and care than he would, if he had to be subjected to a daily examination in a class room.

We are constrained to urge again upon our people, the importance and the duty of sending their children to our own schools. These schools are not inferior to any for the substantial objects of education. That Protestant Methodists should send their children to Roman Catholic Schools is a marvel to us, andwe hold it to be a crime against our Church, a cruelty to the children and an offense to true education. We protest that it is utterly false to say that these Romish schools furnish better facilties and a higher style of education than our own schools, while on the other hand, we believe our own schools are much superior in all respects, and we believe further, that scarcely anything is more baneful to the spiritual interests of our children than to put them under the tuition of Roman Catholic teachers. We entreat our people to avoid these schools, and build up and sustain our own. We should not abate our efforts to bring adult sinners into the church of Christ, but your Committee are thoroughly persuaded that we must look more to the godly training of our children for an efficient and living membership in the church.

In conclusion, we respectfully propose these resolutions:

1st. That in all the forms of education among us we seek to secure the highest intellectual culture as a help to the fullest spiritual life and usefulness.

2d. That we will heartily co-operate with our Laymen in any feasible plan for the higher education of our ministry; and we bid them God speed in this noble and essential work.

3rd. That we will redouble our efforts to persuade our people to send their children to our own schools, and especially not to send them to Romish schools.

CENTENARY COLLEGE.

This is the most important educational institution in our bounds. It originated in the fund collected at the close of the first century of Methodism, began its existence at Brandon Springs, Rankin county, under favorable circumstances, but became involved in debt and in want of means. It was then removed to Jackson, Louisiana, where the buildings, apparatus and cabinet of the State College of Louisiana were purchased for the sum of $10, 000. This sum was not paid, but commuted by an agreement to educate ten State students.

One large additional building was erected at a cost of $76, 000. Many of our first young men were educated at this college; and if we could estimate moral and mental worth in dollars and cents, we should find that the college has already paid back all it cost us. The buildings are now in need of repairs, which will cost thousands of dollars. The Board of Trustees has resolved to repair, and Dr. Keener is now successfully asking aid for that purpose.

We commend this college to the earnest attention of our people, hoping that they will contribute liberally of their means to repair, and send their sons to be educated at this college. The college has a full faculty, and its

pupils are fully taught. We recommend that our licentiate preachers, who may be selected as beneficiaries of the educational fund of this Conference, be sent to Centenary College of Louisiana. We cannot consent to see this college longer continue in want of means and patronage without an effort, long continued, in its behalf.

Your committee also recommend that Dr. Watkins be continued as President of Centenary College.

WHITWORTH FEMALE COLLEGE

This institution has belonged to the Conference since 1866. During this time about $6,000 have been subscribed, much of which has been collected and expended in paying claims against the college, and in re-roofing and repairs. Rev. H. F. Johnson, the President, has during this fall had erected a large, fine wooden building, one hundred and eleven feet long, forty-eight feet wide, with six basement rooms, four recitation rooms, etc. On this Bro. Johnson has paid all except about $300 cash, and the lumber, which was furnished by Whitworth & Hoskins.

The college is fully officered, with one hundred and thirty pupils, ninety-eight of whom are boarders. An excellent apparatus, made to order, is employed for illustration. And now, with suitable buildings, apparatus, books, President and faculty, the success of this institution of learning hitherto is worth our attention.

The growth of the college, under the circumstances, is surprising. The public school of the town drew off many of the pupils. Some of its friends became discouraged. Our people were poor, and hardly able to bear the expense of educating their daughters, and yet it grew steadily on, until it is now in full tide of prosperity. The last commencement was a complete success. Brother Linfield preached the sermon. Dr. Walker delivered an address on education. The pupils were thoroughly examined. We had music and compositions. The graduating class read most excellent essays, and everybody that we heard from was favorably impressed. We recommend this school, with hearty earnestness, to all who desire thoroughly to educate their daughters.

Your committee also recommend that Rev. H. F. Johnson be continued as President of Whitworth Female College.

SHARON FEMALE COLLEGE.

We have reports both from the Board of Trustees and the Visiting Committee. The greatest want of this school seems to be of suitable buildings for boarders. Success in imparting instruction has crowned the efforts of the accomplished President, Bro. Hunnicutt, and faculty. The examination of pupils at the last commencement was more than satisfactory, and the number of graduates was sufficient to encourage us to hope for future success.

We recommend that the attention of the Conference be given to this institution. It was begun in prayer, with pure motives of good and though adversity has fallen upon the school in the burning of its buildings, and though its first supporters are scattered, and though it is not on any great thoroughfare, yet there is need for this seminary now, and there will be more need for it in future; and we are in favor of holding all we have, and of extending our limits to all beyond.

We recommend that Rev. J. M. Pugh be appointed President in place of Bro. Hunnicutt, resigned.

Woodville Female Seminary does not belong to us, but it is under our patronage. We have no reports from trustees or visitors, but learn from the President, Dr. Sullivan, that the school is well organized and well taught. The number of pupils is forty-five. Last year the Visiting Committee made a most complimentary report of this institution, and we have no reason to believe that it is less efficient now than then.

We know not why it is not more prosperous, why the number of pupils is not greater, nor have we any means of satisfactorily determining. Dr. Sullivan, we learn, has tendered his resignation to the trustees, to take effect in February next, and that the Board still desire our aid, and intend to continue the Seminary under our patronage.

Port Gibson Collegiate Academy has been tendered to this Conference as Conference property. Mr. A. J. Wright has resigned the Presidency, and moved into the country seven miles. Mr. R. J. Ricketts and Rev. J. A. B. Jones are teaching a day school of forty-five pupils in the buildings. There are now no boarders in the institution, and no one there to take them. Immediate attention is necessary to reinstate this once prosperous school in the affections and patronage of the people. The buildings are good, but if neglected will soon need expensive repairs.

Some of the trustees have sent their daughters to Kentucky to school, because the academy is not prepared to take boarders. We hope this Conference will at once take charge of Port Gibson Collegiate Academy, and make it a first rate school.

In conclusion we offer the following resolutions:

Resolved, That a collection for ministerial education be counted among our regular Annual Conference collections.

Resolved, That we will endeavor to collect an average of ten cents from each member of our church annually, to be applied to the education of young ministers of our church.

B. JONES, Chairman.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON RELIGIOUS LITERATURE.

The committee to which was referred the subject of religious literature beg leave to report: That in consideration of the much that has been already said, we deem it unnecessary to make an elaborate statement of the merits and claims of our several church periodicals. We beg leave, however, after commending in a general way all our church literature, to call particular attention to the NEW ORLEANS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE. Its editorial resources, as well as its local advantages, are such as to demand the patronage of all who are alive to their individual and general religious interests. And while we recognize with gratification the increased circulation of our ADVOCATE, we would press upon the members of our Conference the importance of making its merits more prominent before their charges. It is our own paper, and we should do our church and people the service to make it stand forth in its bright and pure light before the world.

Allow us also to mention, and favorably, the SUNDAY SCHOOL VISITOR as a useful agent in disseminating religion and building up the church of Christ.

We recommend the appointment of Rev. W. P. Barton as one of the Publishing Committee of the NEW ORLEANS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE, vice Rev. G. H. Clinton, transferred to the St. Louis Conference.

Respectfully submitted,

W. H. WATKINS,
E. H. MOUNGER,
W. F. GLENN, Committee.

REPORT OF JOINT BOARD OF FINANCE.

The Joint Board of Finance beg leave to congratulate the Conference upon the success attending the financial plan recommended at its last session. This is shown by the increased receipts of the Conference fund and the payment of the Bishop's salary, as well as in the salaries of preachers themselves, nearly all of whom have been almost paid, and some entirely where the plan has been fully worked. They have no new plan to present, but would recommend the same for the coming Conference year; and where it cannot be carried out strictly, that it be enforced in such of its provisions as are practicable in each place.

Let a plain and full exhit of the demands of the church be made at the commencement of the year, and our word for it the response of the membership will be satisfactory. Small payments at short intervals on the principle of "pay as you go," will accomplish great results.

Certain facts appear, from the reports we have received, to which we would call special attention:

First. The smallest district in the Conference is third in the rate of returns. On that district the financial plan recommended by this Board and adopted by the Conference was fully carried out.

Second. In several instances the returns of collection for Bishop's salary were made by presiding elders. In these cases the reports are altogether satisfactory. But this strange fact appears: That the amounts returned by the preachers for the Conference collection fall below, though assessed at a much higher rate than the Bishop's claims. The territory yields a harvest to one reaper, and but a paltry handful to others.

Third. In some instances the preachers have reported one-half, three-quarters and even full receipts on their salaries of $500 and upwards, but not a cent for the collections. Is this doing the whole duty of a Methodist preacher? Besides, if the Conference plan of finance was used on their respective works, they owe a per cent. upon their receipts. If they did not use that plan, then they should feel themselves accountable for the proceeds of a better plan.

In other instances preachers have reported a small amount for one collection and nothing for the other. Such discrimination is without authority, that we know of, is unfair to the claimants upon these collections, and if persisted in must destroy that uniformity of proceeding, upon which we make our calculations to meet the respective claims with which this board is charged.

This board is fully persuaded that if each preacher would present upon their merits, to each congregation they serve, the claims and collections ordered by this Conference, we should no longer suffer the mortification of reporting a deficiency in the amount required of us for the Bishops, and so small a per cent. upon the claims of the superannuates, widows and orphans of this Conference.

We have received on account of superannuates, widows and orphans, $1,737 03, and on account of Bishop's salaries, $1,206 70, as follows:

District.	Sup., W. and O.	Bishops.
Woodville,	$193 85	$172 00
Vicksburg,	279 85	96 05
Jackson,	313 70	204 45
Yazoo,	218 45	390 00
Greenville,	226 50	92 00
Starkville,	156 48	47 00
Brandon,	62 25	41 00
Paulding,	113 00	31 00
Brookhaven,	147 95	95 50
Clinton,	25 00	23 70
Total,	1,737 03	1,192 70

Distributed as follows:

Paid to Bishop McTyeire	$1,085 70
Remitted to Dr. Redford on deficiency of last year	121 00
Total	1,206 70

The following is a list of the claimants on the Conference with the Amounts due them and the Amounts received:

Claimants.	Am't Allowed	Am't Rec'd.	Paid To.
Mrs. Berry,	$240 00	$117 60	R. B. Downer,
Mrs. Green and Children,	280 00	137 20	E. R. Strickland.
Mrs. Hainey,	150 00	73 50	C. Chamberlain,
Mrs. Simms and children,	230 00	112 70	"
Mrs. Dawson and child,	190 00	93 10	P. S. Petty,
Mrs. Morris,	150 00	73 50	I. B. Robertson,
Mrs. Lambuth and child,	190 00	93 10	W. Wadsworth,
Mrs. Cooper,	95 00	46 55	A. B. Stuart,
Mrs. Dickinson,	150 00	73 50	J. G. Carlisle,
Mrs. Watson,	150 00	73 50	J. C. Keener,
Mrs. V. Johnson & child,	250 00	122 50	Thos. Nixon,
Mrs. Drake,	100 00	49 00	W. W. Drake,
Mrs. Campbell,	75 00	42 75	J. L. Forsyth,
Mrs. Curtis,	75 00	36 75	W. B. Hines,
Mrs. Lane,	50 00	24 50	R. D. Howe,
Mrs. Light,	75 00	36 75	H. H. Montgomery,
Mrs. Payne,	50 00	24 50	P. Howard,
Mrs. Nash,	75 00	36 75	C. G. Andrews.
Mrs. Deborah Johnson,	75 00	36 75	I. B. Robertson,
Rev. J. I. E. Byrd & wife,	300 00	147 00	W. P. Barton,
Rev. J. G. Deskins & wife,	200 00	98 00	G. Jackson,
Rev. Thos. Clinton,	150 00	73 50	Bradford,
Rev. J. B. Higginbotham,	75 00	36 75	Himself,
Miss Nannie Wadsworth,	30 00	19 60	W. Wadsworth,
Mrs. Wiggins and childrn,	115 00	56 35	H. H. Montgomery,
J. R. Lambuth's children,	80 00	39 20	"
Total,	3610 00	1752 90	

The Board recommend the following assessment for the ensuing year:

District.	Conference Collec.	Bishop's collection
Vicksburg,	$ 750 00	$225 00
Jackson,	500 00	225 00
Yazoo,	1,000 00	225 00
Starkville,	500 00	100 00
Brandon,	300 00	150 00
Paulding,	250 00	85 00
Brookhaven,	500 00	125 00
Woodville,	500 00	135 00
Clinton,	250 00	80 00
Greenville,	250 00	80 00

The Board desire that the Conference, in addition to the order authorizing these two collections, take such further action as to impress upon the minds of our preachers that they are not at liberty to neglect presenting to the people the claims of this Conference upon them for the means of meeting the salaries of our Bishops, and the superannuates, widows and orphans. We submit the following resolutions:

Resolved, That it is expected of each preacher receiving an appointment in this Conference, either himself to take up the collections ordered by this Conference, or see that the claims are provided for by the stewards of the church; otherwise, in case of failure to make returns upon these claims, the Conference will hold such preacher responsible upon the examination of his character.

W. E. M. LINFIELD,
Chairman Board of Finance.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE.

Your Committee on Temperance report: Intemperance in the use of ardent spirits is unquestionably a great and growing evil in the world and in the church. It is the fruitful source of innumerable woes, and a great impediment to the growth of the church.

As a Conference we declare our unqualified opposition to this evil, and dare not withhold our indorsement of every movement, in the church and out of it, which contemplates, by the employment of moral suasion and the correction of public opinion, the suppression of intemperance; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the rule of our Discipline, in reference to the use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage, should be properly but firmly enforced.

Resolved, That all such social temperance organizations as the Sons of Temperance, Social Circle and the Friends of Temperance, are entitled to and shall receive our warmest support, and that as ministers and laymen we will use our best endeavors to banish from the social circle and the festive board all use, as a beverage, of every sort of intoxicating liquors.

Respectfully submitted.

L. R. REDDING.

JOINT BOARD OF FINANCE FOR 1870.

Ministers.	Laymen.
W. E. M. Linfield,	J. E. Jagers,
H. F. Johnson,	Hayward Foote,
C. Chamberlin,	I. M. Applewhite,
H. Brown,	O. J. Moore,
E. H. Mounger,	J. P. Stevens,
W. B. Lewis,	Jno. McVea,
W. W. Hurst,	W. L. Nugent,
G. D. Wade,	R. W. Millsaps,
R. A. Davis,	S. Johnson,
F. M. Williams,	A. G. Mayers.

WEST FELICIANA RAILROAD STOCK.

A certificate representing twenty shares of stock in the above company, which had been deposited with Rev. Wm. Winans, was given in trust for the Conference to Hon. L. K. Barber, of Woodville.

PORT GIBSON COLLEGIATE ACADEMY.

The special committee on the tender of the above Institution reported as follows:

"We cannot too highly appreciate the generous offer of those friends of the church, and we recommend that W. H. Watkins, Jno. A. B. Jones and Thos. Reid be appointed as a committee to confer with the Trustees of said Academy and perfect the transfer; and also that those members be appointed Trustees to act in conjunction with the present Board."

A resolution was adopted requesting the Bishop to appoint Rev. B. Jones as President, and Rev. Jno. A. B. Jones as one of the Professors of said Institution.

RESOLUTIONS OF THE ORPHAN'S EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

WHEREAS, The sufferings and necessities of orphanage have in all ages claimed the sympathy and tender care of the church of Christ;

AND WHEREAS, The number of orphans in our land, and within the borders of our church, appeals with touching emphasis to the Christian charities of all good and Christian people;

AND WHEREAS, We deem the ordinary method of collecting great numbers of orphan children into massive, solitary, gloomy and expensive buildings, unwise and contrary to the best interests of the orphans and of society, inasmuch as such children are unavoidably subjected to an unnatural and often most painful course of life, under which character cannot be formed upon a high standard, and the cheerfulness of childhood is lost; therefore,

Resolved, By the Mississippi Annual Conference, that a committee of ten be formed, five of whom shall be members of this Conference and five of them laymen of our church, who shall be charged with the business of investigating the subject of orphanage among us, and, if practicable, to devise such methods of providing for those who need relief as in their wisdom they may deem most advisable.

Resolved, That we regard it as desirable, in undertaking the accomplishment of this work, that the committee should consider the propriety of organizing a system of general supervision over orphans, so that they may be domiciled in families, and be supported, educated and trained up in home and family relations, and thus rendered happy and useful.

Resolved, That should any legislation be deemed necessary to the success of such plan, the committee be authorized to take such steps and adopt such measures as may be considered essential to attaining the object in view.

Resolved, That the committee be and they are authorized to put into operation such plan for the relief of orphans as early as practicable, and that they report to the next ensuing Annual Conference.

Resolved, That the Bishop presiding be requested to appoint said committee.

C. K. MARSHALL, Chairman.

The resolutions were adopted and the Bishop appointed the following

COMMITTEE ON ORPHANS EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

Clerical.	Laymen.
REV. C. K. MARSHALL, Chairman.....	GEN. B. G. HUMPHREYS,
REV. R. ABBEY,.....	HON. O. R. SINGLETON,
REV. W. P. BARTON,.....	THOMAS GREEN, ESQ.,
REV. W. H. WATKINS,.....	J. W. VICK, ESQ.,
REV. C. G. ANDREWS,.....	G. W. HARPER, ESQ.

ADELAIDE GREEN DONATION.

Rev. H. H. Montgomery, Trustee, reported that he had collected $20 as interest on the above fund, and by resolution it was appropriated toward the education of Miss Laura, daughter of the late Rev. Jno. R. Lambuth.

VAN HOUTEN'S BEQUEST FUND.

Rev. W. Harrington was appointed Trustee of the above fund in place of Rev. John Lusk, who has located.

ENCLOSURE OF THE GRAVE OF CORNELIUS VAN HOUTEN.

The committee appointed on this subject at last Conference, reported that they had corresponded with the Publishing House at Nashville, and had received assurance that it would co-operate with the other legatees in the matter. Rev. W. P. Barton was appointed a Committee to consummate the arrangement.

REV. J. H. MASSEY.

Rev. K. A. Jones appointed at last Conference to make inquiry in regard to Bro. Massey, reported that he had satisfied himself of the death of Bro. Massey, but had been unable to obtain sufficient information to write an obituary. The same committee was continued to seek further facts.

CONSTITUTION OF THE MINISTERIAL EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF THE MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.

ARTICLE 1st. This Association shall be called the Ministerial Educational Association of the Mississippi Conference.

ART. 2d. Its object shall be to assist in the Literary and Theological Education of young men who are preparing for the ministry.

ARTICLE 3. SECTION 1ST. Its officers shall be a President, two Vice Presidents, a Secretary and Treasurer, who shall perform the usual duties of such officers.

SEC. 2d. Two members shall be elected to act with the above named officers as a Board of Managers.

SEC. 3d. All the officers shall be received annually at the session of Conference.

ART. 4th. All applicants for assistance shall come recommended by a quarterly Conference, give their note for one hundred dollars for each years tuition, to be cancelled at the rate of one hundred dollars per year, until they have remained in the ministry for at least three years, should they fail to enter and continue in the Ministry for at least three years, said notes to be of binding effect and in full force against them and collectable.

ART. 5th. Auxiliary Associations may be formed by District Conferences, Circuits or Stations, who shall report their organization and their doings annually to the parent Society.

ART. 6th. The Board of Managers can make their own rules and regulations, not inconsistent with the design of this Association.

ART. 7th. All members of the Mississippi Conference of the M. E. Church South, shall be Ex-officio members of this organization.

ART. 8th. This Constitution can be altered or amended at any annual meeting by a majority of the members present at such meeting.

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolutions adopted at the Annual Meeting of the Ministerial Educational Association of the Mississippi Conference at its Session at Jackson, Mississippi, Dec. 8th 1869:

1st. Resolved, That the presiding Elders of the several Districts within the bounds of the Mississippi Conference, be requested to urge their congregations to organize District, Circuit, and Station Societies auxil iary to the Ministerial Educational Association of the Mississippi Conference.

2d. Resolved, That such societies may adopt Constitutions, and By-Laws, not inconsistent with the Constitution of the Parent Society, and may designate the Institution of Learning the candidate under their patronage shall attend, provided such school, college or university is under the control of the Conference of the M. E. Church, South.

3d. Resolved, That the Lay delegates present pledge themselves to secure the organization of auxiliary societies as contemplated by these resolutions during the first quarter of the coming conference year, and bring their societies when organized, into immediate correspondence with the parent society.

4th. Resolved, That there shall be an Annual Celebration of this Association, at each successive session of the Annual Conference.

OFFICERS FOR PRESENT YEAR.

PRESIDENT—THOS. REID, Fayette, Mississippi,
1ST VICE PRESIDENT—M. L. McGUIRE, Richland, Mississippi.
2D VICE PRESIDENT—O. J. MOORE, Winona, Miss.,
SECRETARY—J. C. KITRELL, Winona, Miss.,
TREASURER—JOSEPH McGEHEE, Bluff Springs, Miss.,
MANAGERS—R. D. HOWE, Vicksburg, Miss., S. L. GUICE, Natchez, Miss.,

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MISSIONARY MONEY RECEIVED AND FORWARDED TO REV. JAMES W. LAMBUTH BY REV. H. H. MONTGOMERY.

Sharon Circuit,	$24 75
Canton Station,	100 85
Clinton Circuit, (less 4,00)	23 90
Vaiden Circuit,	26 30
Starkville Circuit,	59 00
Yazoo Circuit,	36 40
Winona Circuit	55 00
Holmesville, Circuit,	10 00
Raymond and Spring Ridge Circuit,	98 50
A Lady,	1 00
Camden Circuit,	46 85
Vernon and Livingston Circuit,	35 00
Woodville Station,	15 00
Pleasant Valley,	10 00
Madisonville Circuit,	2 00
Louisville Circuit,	8 10
Rocky Springs Circuit,	37 65
S. S. Greenville Station,	30 00
Carrollton Circuit,	10 00
Hillsborough Circuit,	15 00
Brookhaven Station,	5 00
N. Warren Circuit,	40 00
Yazoo District,	16 00
Liberty,	5 00
Wilkinson, Circuit,	20 00
Rankin Circuit	10 00
Burtonton Circuit,	12 00
Brandon Circuit,	5 25
Richland Circuit,	1 50
Durant Circuit,	23 50
Mt. Olivet Circuit,	7 00
W. H. Watkins, Treasurer,	76 00
Mrs. Bell, Jackson, Mississippi,	10 00
H. F. Johnson,	10 00
Total,	$886 05

MISSIONARY APPORTIONMENT.

The presiding Elders make the following missionary appropriations for the year 1870, and recommend the brethren to use proper means to make collections large enough to meet the appropriations:

Clinton District,	$200 00
Livingston Mission,	150 00
Ponchatoula Mission,	100 00
Covington Mission,	100 00
Mount Carmel District,	200 00
Ocoha Mission,	50 00
Black Creek Mistion,	50 00
Columbia Mission,	100 00
Brandon District,	100 00
Decatur Mission,	100 00
Starkville District,	100 00
Plattsburg Mission,	50 00
Brookhaven District----Bogue Chitto Mission,,	100 00
Total,	1,400 00

REV. JAMES W. LAMBUTH.

Resolved, That the Treasurer of our Conference Missionary Society be hereby instructed to forward to Bro. Lambuth in China, the one hundred dollars raised to assist in the of buying property for his orphan school for boys; and one-half the amount of the other collections and subscriptions taken at the anniversary of the Missionary Society on Saturday evening.

MEMORIAL TO GENERAL CONFERENCE.

According to a request from the Brookhaven District Meeting, Conference resolved that they memorialize the General Conference to incorporate the District Meeting as part of our Church Machinery.

CANDIDATES FOR THE MINISTRY.

Resolved, That our Presiding Elders be requested to give increased attention to those young men who may be called of God to preach the Gospel, and to raise funds for those who need them to assist in preparing them for the ministry.

EXPENSES OF DELEGATES TO GENERAL CONFERENCE.

Resolved, That the preachers in charge in this Conference, be and they are hereby instructed to raise a collection in their several charges to defray the expenses of the delegates to the General Conference, and forward the same before the 1st of April, to the Delegate most convenient to them.

CONFERENCE SERMON

In place of a Conference Sermon, Rev. C. K. Marshall was requested to deliver such a lecture on the Life and Times of Rev. John Wesley, as he may deem appropriate, on Wednesday night of the next Conference.

METHODIST PROTESTANT CONFERENCE.

Rev. Charles F. Gillespie, Fraternal Messenger from the Methodist Protestant Conference was present during the session, and addressed the Conference on behalf of his Church expressing sincere brotherly love, and the hope of a closer union of the churches.

The report of Bro. Gillespie was received, and Rev's. H. F. Johnson and W. Harrington, with Rev. R. J. Jones, Jr., as alternate, were appointed to convey our fraternal feelings to the next session of the Mississippi Annual Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church.

VISITING COMMITTEES.

Whitworth Female College–H. BROWN, W. B. HINES, C. G. ANDREWS.

Port Gibson Collegiate Academy—W. L. C. HUNNICUTT, C. K. MARSHALL, J. G. JONES.

Sharon Female College–J. W. HARMON, J. A. ELLIS, J. K. HAMBLEN.

Clinton Female Institute—W. E. BALLARD, J. L. FORSYTH, W. B. LEWIS.

DELEGATES TO NEXT GENERAL CONFERENCE.

Ministers—H. H. MONTGOMERY, W. H. WATKINS, C. K. MARSHALL, W. P. BARTON, R. ABBEY.

Reserve Delegates–H. F. JOHNSON, C. G. ANDREWS, JNO. G. JONES.

Laymen—THOMAS REID, O. J. MOORE, M. L. MCGUIRE, STEPHEN JOHNSON, JAMES E. WATTS.

Reserve Delegates—E. G. COOKE, R. D. HOWE, W. L. NUGENT, L. K. BARBER, J. C. KITRELL.

NEXT SESSION OF CONFERENCE.

Is to be held at Crystal Springs, Mississippi. Time to be selected by the Bishops.

COMPLIMENTARY RESOLUTIONS

Resolved 1st. That our unfeigned thanks are due and hereby tendered to the citizens of Jackson and vicinity, for their generous hospitalities during the session of this Conference.

Resolved 2d. That we tender to the Masonic Fraternity of Jackson our acknowledgement of the favor of the use of their Hall for the sessions of the Conference.

Resolved 3rd. That we hereby express our most fraternal acknowledgements to the Pastors and membership of our sister churches, Baptist and Presbyterian, and African Methodists, for the use of their houses of worship on last Sabbath.

Resolved 4th. That we most heartily thank the officers of the N. O., J. & G. Northern, Mississippi Central, and Vicksburg and Meridian Railroads and Capt. Thos. Leathers, of Steamer Dexter, for the liberality they have displayed in affording transportation to the members of the Conference at half-fare over their several roads.

Resolved 5th. That we sincerely thank the editor and publishers of THE CLARION, published in this city, for special favors, and request then to publish this and the foregoing resolutions in their excellent paper.

Unanimously adopted by the Conference.

APPOINTMENT OF THE PREACHERS. 1869

WOODVILLE DISTRICT—Jas. A. Godfrey, Presiding Elder.
Woodville Station—Corydon Chamberlin.
Percy's Creek—David A. Givens,
Saint Helena—Barnabas Pipkin.
Wilkinson—James H. Shelton.
Buffalo—William Finn.
Liberty—James A. Godfrey,
Meadville—Columbus W. Campbell.
Homochitto Mission—Robert A. Sibley.
Amite—Willis H. Germany.

VICKSBURG DISTRICT—John A. B. Jones, Presiding Elder.
Vicksburg Station—William E. M. Linfield.
North Warren—Parmenas Howard.
South Warren—Charles K. Marshall.
Cayuga—Ira B. Robertson and Thomas Nixon.
Rocky Springs—Charles T. French, Daniel A. J. Parker.
Port Gibson Station—John G. Jones.
Grand Gulf and Rodney—Benjamin Jones.
Fayette—W. Fisk Glenn.
Natchez—William L. C. Hunnicutt.
Kingston—William H. Watkins.
Benjamin Jones, President Port Gibson Collegiate Academy.
William H. Watkins, President of Centenary College.

YAZOO DISTRICT—William P. Barton, Presiding Elder.
Yazoo City Station—Edwin H. Mounger.
Yazoo Circuit—Andrew B. Stewart.
Mount Olivet—Thomas W. Flowers.
Richland—Ransom J. Jones, Jr.
Lexington—Joseph D. Newsom.
Durant—Asbury R. Hines.
Black Hawk—Charles B. Galloway.
Carrollton—Hiniard Townsend.
Greenwood and McNutt—H. Williamson.
Bear Creek and Roebuck Mission—To be supplied.

GREENVILLE DISTRICT—W. Winans Drake, Presiding Elder.
Greenville Station—William T. J. Sullivan.
Deer Creek, Upper—Jacob D. Murff.
Deer Creek, Lower—J. C. Carlyle.
Bolivar—Richard H. Herbert.
Clover Hill—Robert A. Davis.
Lake Lee and Leota—To be supplied. James Maclennan, Sup.
Sunflower—Robert B. Seeders.

STARKVILLE DISTRICT—Francis M. Featherston, Presiding Elder.
Starkville and Pierce Chapel—Kenneth A. Jones.
Whitfield—To be supplied by A. P. Leach.
Louisville—James O. Woodward.
Plattsburg Mission—To be supplied.
French Camps—James G. Carlisle.
Line Creek—William R. Rainey.

Winona—George D. Wade.
Vaiden—Thomas C. Parrish.
Kosciusko—Pinckney A. Johnson.
Belle Fontaine—Thomas W. Castles.
Carthage—David Merchant.

BRANDON DISTRICT—Henry J. Harris, Presiding Elder.
Brandon Station—To be supplied.
Brandon Circuit—George Jackson.
Hillsboro'—Francis M. Williams.
Trenton—Levi P. Meador.
Walnut Grove—John A. Vance.
Forest—John D. Hays.
Sylvarena—Louis Kendall.
Paulding—David W. Dillehay.
Garlandsville—George W. Boyls.
Decatur Mission—George W. Chatfield.
Philadelphia—Jacob H. Holland.
John W. Harmon, Agent South Western Bible Society.

MOUNT CARMEL DISTRICT—Henry P. Lewis, Presiding Elder.
Mount Carmel Circuit—James M. Weems.
Rankin—Walter W. Hurst.
Columbia Mission—Newton B. Young.
Gainsville—Henry P. Bowen.
Handsboro'—To be supplied by W. G. Evans.
Black Creek—To be supplied by R. J. Hopkins.
Ocoha—Lyman Carley.

BROOKHAVEN DISTRICT—G. F. Thompson, Presiding Elder.
Brookhaven Station—Leonidas R. Redding.
Bogue Chitto—To be suppled by John Ritchie.
Magnolia—George M. Liverman.
Summit—Erastus R. Strickland.
Scotland—Franklin W. Sharbrough; W. G. Millsaps, Sup.
Brandywine—Ephraim A. Flowers.
Crystal Springs and Hazlehurst—Wm B. Hines, Jarrott W. McNeil, Sup.
Pleasant Valley and Rehoboth—William Wadsworth.
Burtonton Circuit—John J. Clark.
Georgetown—Andrew Day.
Wesson and Beauregard—Robert B. Downer.
Martinsville—Archibald B. Nicholson.
H. F. Johnson, President of Whitworth Female College.

CLINTON DISTRICT—Joseph, Nicholson, Presiding Elder.
Clinton Station—William Bryant Lewis.
East Feliciana—William E. Ballard.
East Baton Rouge—E. W. Simmons.
Livingston Mission—C. R. Godfrey.
Jackson, Louisiana—James L. Forsyth.
Greensburg and Day's—Joseph Nicholson.
Arcola—Thomas Price.
Tangipahoa—William K. Simmons.
Covington Mission—Elisha F. Mullins.
Ponchatoula—To be suppled.

JACKSON DISTRICT—Richard Abbey, Presiding Elder.
Jackson Circuit—Julius T. Curtis.
Canton Station—Henderson H. Montgomery.
Sharon—J. M. Pugh.
Camden—Whitefield Harrington.
Sulphur Springs—Thomas M. Ward.
Forest Grove—James K. Hamblen.
Madison—To be supplied.
Brownsville—John A. Ellis.
Raymond—Hardie Brown and Alex. M. Campbell.
Jackson Station—Charles Green Andrews.
James W. Lambuth, Missionary to China.
J. M. Pugh, President of Sharon Female College.

APPOINTED TO COLORED CONFERENCE.

Philip S. Petty, John B. Bowen, John D. Willis, Ransom J. Jones, Sr., James S. Harris.
John W. Adams left without appointment, and his case referred to the Presiding Elder of the Jackson District.
William T. Beall discontinued at his own request.
Located—Richard T. Hennington, Robt. D. Norsworthy, John W. Jones, Robert A. New.
Died this year—Peter James and Samuel T. Swiney.
William Price and Thos. J. Hutson transferred to the North West Texas Conference.
Joseph Carr and Perry G. Reynolds transferred to the North Georgia Conference.
John V. Pointer and Patrick Lane transferred to Louisiana Conference.
Superanuated—J. Ira E. Byrd, Thos. Clinton, George T. Vickers, John G. Deskin, John B. Higginbotham, Burwell B. Whittington, Levi Pearce, Hervey Copeland.

Rev C C Hunter

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